

# EXHIBIT 1

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

CLEMSON UNIVERSITY and  
THE COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON  
on behalf of themselves and all  
others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

W. R. GRACE & CO., et al.,

Defendants.

C. A. No. 2: 86-2055-2

**FILED**

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ANN A. BIRCH, Clerk  
CHARLESTON, S. C.

MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION TO KAISER GYPSUM  
COMPANY, INC.'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR  
LACK OF DIVERSITY JURISDICTION

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|---------------------------------|---|------------------------|
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| on behalf of themselves and all | ) | C. A. No. 2: 86-2055-2 |
| others similarly situated,      | ) |                        |
|                                 | ) |                        |
| Plaintiffs,                     | ) |                        |
|                                 | ) |                        |
| vs.                             | ) |                        |
|                                 | ) |                        |
| W. R. GRACE & CO., et al.,      | ) |                        |
|                                 | ) |                        |
| Defendants.                     | ) |                        |

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CLASS PLAINTIFFS' RESPONSE TO  
KAISER GYPSUM'S MOTION TO DISMISS  
FOR LACK OF DIVERSITY JURISDICTION

I

INTRODUCTION

This action was instituted on August 1, 1986 as higher education's counterpart to the class action certified on behalf of all primary and secondary schools. In re: School Asbestos Litigation, 789 F.2d 996 (3rd Cir. 1986) cert. denied 107 S.Ct. 182, 318 (1986). In its eleventh motion since this case was filed, Kaiser Gypsum has moved to dismiss, claiming that the two named plaintiffs are alter egos of the State of South Carolina, and as such, are not "citizens" of South Carolina for diversity purposes.

Kaiser Gypsum's motion should be denied. The United States Supreme Court, in an opinion ignored by Kaiser Gypsum, has already held that Clemson University is not an alter ego of the state. Diversity jurisdiction is proper based on its

citizenship alone. In addition, Kaiser Gypsum ignores the independent federal jurisdictional basis of the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1330.

Before discussing these issues in detail, it may be helpful to put this motion ( and Kaiser's motivation) in perspective by examining the status of the asbestos property litigation.

## II

### PRESENT STATUS OF ASBESTOS PROPERTY LITIGATION

Encouraging developments have occurred in the asbestos property damage litigation in 1987. Across the country, building owners are beginning to resolve their claims for reimbursement of asbestos removal costs. There have been ten asbestos property damage trials, with all except one ending ultimately in building owners' favor.<sup>1</sup> But the real progress over the last few months

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<sup>1</sup>Lexington County School District Five v. United States Gypsum Co., No. 82-2072-0 (D.S.C. 1984) [\$675,000.00 mid-trial settlement on \$378,000.00 asbestos removal claim in April 1984]; Anderson County, Tennessee v. United States Gypsum, et al., No. CIV-3-83-511 (E.D.Tenn.) [defense verdict 1985] aff'd. 821 F.2d 1230 (6th Cir. 1987); Spartanburg County School District Seven v. United States Gypsum Co., No. 86-639-14 (D.S.C.) [defense verdict in August 1985, rev'd. 805 F.2d 1148 (4th Cir. 1986), plaintiff's verdict of \$106,000.00 against USG on warranty retrial, appeal pending]; City of Greenville, et al. v. W.R. Grace & Co., 640 F.Supp. 559 (D.S.C. 1986) [\$4.8 million actual and \$2 million punitive damage award approved on post-trial motions in June 1986, aff'd. 827 F.2d 975 (4th Cir. 1987), pet. for reh. pending]; The Corporation of Mercer University v. National Gypsum Co., et al., No. 85-126-3-MAC (M.D.Ga.) [\$400,000.00 actual and \$2 million punitive verdict approved on post-trial motions in April 1986, cross appeals pending No. 86-8693 (11th Cir.)]; School District of the City of Independence Missouri v. United States Gypsum Co., et al., No. CV 8405334 (Mo. Cir. 1986) [\$650,000 actual damage verdict approved on post-trial motions; punitive damage verdict vacated, cross appeals pending]; St.

has come through group settlements resolving hundreds of building owners' claims. See eg., 2 Mealey's Litigation Reports-Asbestos, 494 (May 8, 1987) [nationwide multi-million dollar settlement for schools], 2 Mealey's Litigation Reports-Asbestos, 603 (May 22, 1987) [multi-million dollar settlement for Texas schools]. Class actions, with their ability to bring large numbers of claimants into a single forum, promise to be an important vehicle as building owners and defendants struggle to resolve this unprecedented socio-environmental problem. See, In re: School Asbestos Litigation, 789 F.2d at 1009 [noting that providing a settlement opportunity is a legitimate factor in reviewing class certification decision]; cf. In re: Raymark Industries, 831 F.2d 550 (5th Cir. 1987). [Class action settlement of 700 asbestos personal injury claims.]

There is no longer any question that all friable asbestos-containing materials must eventually be removed from buildings. See, 40 C.F.R. § 61.147. The issue of who should pay these costs is, therefore, of enormous importance not only to building

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Joseph Hospital v. The Celotex Corporation, et al., No. 186-047 (S.D.Ga. 1986) [\$500,000.00 actual damages, affirmed on post-trial motions; appeal pending No. 86-8140 (11th Cir. 1987)]; Athens City Board of Education v. National Gypsum Co., No. CIV-1-85-355 (E.D.Tenn. 1986) [\$553,000.00 actual damages affirmed on post-trial motions, settled on appeal]; Charleston County School District v. W.R. Grace & Co., et al., No. 86-CP-10-1516 (S.C. Cir.) [settled during pretrial motions, June 2, 1987]; Independent School District No. 709 v. Air-O-Therm Application Co., No. 155716 (Minn. Dist.) [settled during trial, June 2, 1987]; see also Huntsville City Board of Education v. National Gypsum Co., et al., No. CV83-325L (Ala. Cir. Nov. 1987) [granting judgment against U.S.G. for discovery abuse; settled December 7, 1987 for \$1.36 million on condition sanctions order be withdrawn].

owners, asbestos companies and their insurers, but to society at large.

This coming year promises to be very important for the asbestos property damage litigation. The Manville Trust for property damage claims is expected to be operational by mid-1988, providing approximately \$200 million in initial asbestos abatement assistance to building owners. In re: Johns-Manville Corp; 68 B.R. 155 (S.D.N.Y. 1986) The December 1, 1987 opt-out date for the national school class action, whose certification was upheld on appeal, has now passed. It is widely anticipated that settlement activity there will intensify now that the parameters of the class have been determined.

While different observers will draw different conclusions from these events, one thing can be said with certainty. A large segment of the realistic defendants wishes to deal with these claims on a group, as opposed to individual basis, to lessen transactional costs.

While people of good will on both sides struggle for an equitable solution to the enormous problem of asbestos in colleges and other buildings, a small segment of the defense camp, led by Kaiser Gypsum, is mired in a short-sighted motions campaign. The instant motion typifies such a "forest for the trees" strategy. Kaiser Gypsum claims that neither Clemson University nor The College of Charleston is a proper class representative because both are "alter egos" of South Carolina and, consequently, have no "citizenship" for diversity purposes.

As plaintiffs show below, Kaiser Gypsum, even in its technical arguments, has confused the concept of being a state agency with being an "alter ego" of the state. It also ignores the parallel class action now pending in this Court by Central Wesleyan, a private university as to which there can be no "alter ego" question. Finally, Kaiser Gypsum ignores the alternate basis for jurisdiction -- the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1330 -- that renders extended debate over diversity unwarranted.

In any event, as plaintiffs show below, diversity jurisdiction is proper.

### III

#### ARGUMENT

##### A. DIVERSITY JURISDICTION IS PROPER BASED ON CLEMSON'S CITIZENSHIP

##### 1. Clemson University is Not an Alter Ego

For a defendant as transfixed on technicalities as Kaiser Gypsum, it is at least curious that it has avoided all mention of Dr. John Hopkins v. Clemson Agricultural College, 221 U.S. 636, 31 S.Ct. 654 (1911), in which the Supreme Court specifically held that Clemson University is not the alter ego of the State of South Carolina. Kaiser Gypsum makes no effort to address or explain this case which is flatly controlling.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Although Hopkins v. Clemson was an eleventh amendment case, courts use essentially the same analysis for the eleventh amendment as for diversity of citizenship. See, e.g., Tradigrain, Inc. v. Mississippi State Port Authority, 701 F.2d

Rather, Kaiser Gypsum asserts as dogma that all public colleges and universities "Are Agencies And Alter Egos Of The State Itself." Kaiser Memo at 2. In support of this "rule", it cites cases which have held a particular college or university to be an alter ego of the State.

This is a complete distortion of the law. Contrary to Kaiser Gypsum's claims, the real "rule" is that every college or university is to be judged on its own facts. Soni v. Board of Trustees of the University of Tennessee, 513 F.2d 347, 352 (6th Cir. 1975), cert. denied 426 U.S. 919, 96 S.Ct. 2623 (1976). While some may be arms of the State, there are also many public colleges and universities which, owing to the history of their creation and development, have retained a degree of separateness that prevents them from being called simply "alter egos" of the State. As noted above, Clemson is a prime example of such an institution which remains sufficiently independent to be termed a "citizen." This is confirmed not only by the Supreme Court decision in Hopkins v. Clemson (which arose, of course, in this Circuit), but also by recent decisions

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1131, 1132 (5th Cir. 1983) ["the analysis of an agency's [alter ego] status is virtually identical whether the case involves a determination of immunity under the Eleventh Amendment or a determination of citizenship for diversity jurisdiction"]. The Tradigrain case adopted the approach of Huber, Hunt and Nichols, Inc. v. Architectural Stone Co., 625 F.2d 22 (5th Cir. 1980), which had relied on Clemson.

involving analogous universities, other public agencies, and by a close look at the South Carolina Code.

At the outset, it is critical to recognize that not every state agency, instrumentality, municipality or corporate body of a state is its alter ego for diversity purposes. Indeed, municipal corporations have been consistently held to be citizens for diversity purposes.<sup>3</sup> Only when identity with the state is almost complete will an alter ego relationship be found. This rule has been well-settled for many years, see Cowles v. Mercer County, 74 U.S. 118 (1868); Illinois v. City of Milwaukee, 406 U.S. 91, 92 S.Ct. 1385 (1972); Moor v. County of Alameda, 411 U.S. 693, 93 S.Ct. 1785 (1973); City of Clinton v. Moffitt, 812 F.2d 341 (7th Cir. 1987). It has been confirmed once again by the Fourth Circuit only a few months ago. Ram Ditta v. Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission, 822 F.2d 456 (4th Cir. 1987) [Park Commission is not an alter ego notwithstanding its status as a state agency]. See also, S.C. Att'y Gen. Op. (Dec. 8, 1987) [S.C. Ports Authority is a state agency but not an alter ego.] (Attached hereto as Exhibit 5.)

This rule applies equally to colleges and universities, which in many cases have maintained sufficient

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<sup>3</sup>As will be discussed in more detail infra, Clemson University is a municipal corporation. S. C. Code of Laws (1976) § 59-119-310.

separateness to avoid becoming the alter ego of the State. The most recent, significant decision in this area is Kovats v. Rutgers, The State University, 822 F.2d 1303 (3rd Cir. 1987), holding that a "state university" was not an alter ego of the state. As the discussion below will show, the factors that led the Third Circuit to deny alter ego status to Rutgers are also present as to Clemson.

Contrary to Kaiser Gypsum's argument, every college or university stands on its own. Soni v. Board of Trustees, 513 F.2d at 352. In addition to Rutgers, there are numerous other significant examples of colleges which have been held, after reasoned inquiry, to be distinct from the State and not alter egos. See, e.g., Gordenstein v. University of Delaware, 381 F.Supp. 718 (D.Del. 1974) [University of Delaware is not alter ego of the state]; Dyson v. Lavery, 417 F.Supp. 103 (E.D.Va. 1976) [Virginia Polytechnic Institute (V.P.I.) is an independent government agency/instrumentality, and not an alter ego of the state]; Samuel v. University of Pittsburgh, et al., 375 F.Supp. 1119 (W.D.Pa. 1974), reversed on other grounds 538 F.2d 991 (3rd Cir. 1976) [Pittsburgh, Temple and Penn State are not alter egos of the state]; Connelly v. University of Vermont and State Agricultural College, 244 F.Supp. 156, 158-159 (D.Vt. 1965) [colleges are bodies corporate and independent of the state]. See also, Soni v. Board of Trustees, supra.



All of the cases build upon the rationale in Hopkins v. Clemson, but none of them changes its framework. In that case, the United States Supreme Court examined in detail Clemson's relationship with South Carolina and found them distinct entities. Plaintiff, Dr. Hopkins, sued Clemson alleging that his lands had been damaged when a Clemson dike burst. His recovery hinged on proving that Clemson was not an "alter ego" entitled to the sovereign immunity of the State, which he did. The Supreme Court examined the statutory provisions which give Clemson its existence, power and authority. In refusing Clemson the benefit of the State's immunity, the Court found:

. . . the statute [the progenitor of § 59-119-60] created an entity, a corporation, a juristic person, whose right to hold and use property was coupled with the provision that it might sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in its corporate name.

31 S.Ct. at 658

In so ruling, the Court found Clemson to be a separate, distinct and independent entity from the State of South Carolina, not entitled to its sovereign immunity.

Later cases have built upon and refined Clemson by asking additional questions and devising multi-part tests. For example, the Fourth Circuit in Ram Ditta measured four principal factors, while the Third Circuit in the Rutgers

case identified nine.<sup>4</sup> While these formulations differ in detail, they basically boil down to a simple set of very practical questions: Does the entity have a corporate existence that gives it the power to sue and be sued in its own name<sup>5</sup>, are its debts automatically obligations of the State Treasury<sup>6</sup>, and is the entity designated by law a municipality or other State subdivision distinct from the State itself<sup>7</sup>.

Measured by these practical standards, Clemson is not the alter ego of the State of South Carolina. An understanding of Clemson's status must begin with the circumstances and statutory scheme under which it was established. Thomas Green Clemson died on April 6, 1888 leaving his last will and testament setting aside property to establish a college. See, S.C. Code § 59-119-10 (1976).

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<sup>4</sup>Other recent lists of factors appear in Coastal Petroleum Co. v. U.S.S. Agri-Chemicals, 695 F.2d 1314, 1318 (11th Cir. 1983); Patterson v. Ramsey, 413 F.Supp. 523, 529 (D.Md. 1976), aff'd on other grounds 552 F.2d 117 (4th Cir. 1977); Huber, Hunt, & Nichols v. Architectural Stone Co., supra.

<sup>5</sup>Petty v. Tennessee-Missouri Bridge Comm'n., 359 U.S. 275, 280-82, 79 S.Ct. 785 (1959); accord: Welch v. State Dept. of Highways, 107 S.Ct. 2941 n.7 (1987).

<sup>6</sup>According to the Ram Ditta case, this is the most significant factor. It was also the critical factor in Judge Hawkins' decision, which was affirmed by the Fourth Circuit, that the South Carolina Employment Security Commission does not have Eleventh Amendment immunity. Brown v. Porcher, 502 F.Supp. 946 (D.S.C. 1980), aff'd., 660 F.2d 1001 (4th Cir. 1981).

<sup>7</sup>13B Wright, Miller & Cooper, Federal Practice and Procedure, 3602 n.14.

The college was placed under the management and control of a board of thirteen trustees composed of seven members nominated by Clemson's will, (who have always chosen their own successors), with the remaining six member minority elected by the General Assembly. § 59-119-40. The Board of Trustees is empowered to ". . . make all rules and regulations for the government of the university." § 59-119-50. Of special significance is § 59-119-60 which vividly portrays the separate identity of Clemson:

Section 59-119-60 Board declared a body politic and corporate; corporate powers; property; investments of funds.

The board of trustees is hereby declared to be a body politic and corporate, under the name and style of Clemson University. It shall have a corporate seal, which it may change at its discretion, and in its corporate name, it may contract for, purchase, and hold property, for the purposes of § 59-119-10 to 59-119-70 and may take any property or money given or conveyed by deed, devise or bequest to said university and hold the same for its use and benefit; provided however, that the conditions of such gifts or conveyances shall in no case be inconsistent with the purposes of § 59-119-10 to 59-119-70 and that the Board shall not by the acceptance thereof incur any obligation on the part of the State. It shall securely invest all funds and keep property which may come into its possession and may sell any of the personal property not subject to the trust and reinvest the same in such a way as it deems best for the interest of said university. It may sue and be sued and plead and be impleaded in its corporate name and may do all things necessary to carry out the provisions of § 59-119-10 to 59-119-70 and may make bylaws for this purpose if it deems necessary.

Thus, under § 59-119-60, Clemson is empowered to:

1. Sue and be sued in its own name;
2. Implead or be impleaded in a court of competent jurisdiction;

3. Contract in its own name;
4. Acquire, hold title to and dispose of property in its own name;
5. Be a "body corporate and politic" having all the normal rights, powers, and immunities incident to corporations; and
6. Accept any property or money, given, conveyed or devised by bequest as long as it does not incur any obligation on the part of the state. § 59-119-60.

In addition, under § 59-119-510 and § 59-119-590, Clemson may issue revenue bonds in its own name, which are not obligations of the state, for the purpose of building construction or improvements. Moreover, less than half of Clemson's yearly operating revenues are provided by the State. (See Affidavit and Exhibits of Jack Wilson, Exhibit 1, 1A and 1B)<sup>8</sup>.

Also of significance, Clemson is covered under the South Carolina Insurance Reserve Fund, which operates like a captive insurance company. The Fund assesses premiums on and provides coverage to such organizations as municipalities, school districts, state-affiliated institutions, etc. See, § 10-7-10 et seq. See also, § 1-11-140. In the event a judgment were rendered against

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<sup>8</sup>Even receipt of significant state funding will not create an alter ego. Mt. Healthy City Board of Education v. Doyle, 429 U.S. 274, 97 S.Ct. 568 (1977). The Supreme Court in Hopkins v. Clemson noted Clemson's receipt of an annual appropriation, but nevertheless held it was not an "alter ego" 31 S.Ct. at 658.

Clemson in a lawsuit, money from the Insurance Reserve Fund, would be available to pay it. The State Treasury would not be burdened. And, since Clemson also owns property in its own name, a judgment could be satisfied out of its funds or property without resorting to the State Treasury. As the Fourth Circuit has recently said:

While many factors must be considered in determining whether an entity is the alter ego of the state, it is generally held that the most important consideration is whether the state treasury will be responsible for paying any judgment that might be awarded.

Ram Ditta, 822 F.2d at 457  
(citations omitted)

Thus, with respect to Clemson, the effect, if any on the State Treasury would be "ancillary" at most. See, Edleman v. Jordan, 415 U.S. 651, 667-68, 94 S.Ct. 1347 (1974) [holding an "ancillary" effect on the state treasury is not enough to invoke the protective cloak of the Eleventh Amendment].

Accordingly, pursuant to the statutory provisions affecting Clemson, there has been a substantial and real separation and independence created between the state and Clemson.<sup>9</sup> See, Kovats v. Rutgers, The State University, 822 F.2d at 1307-12 [Rutgers is not an alter ego even though a majority of its operating account is state appropriations and its property is exempt from local zoning and taxes,

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<sup>9</sup>Indeed, anyone familiar with the Clemson sports program would immediately recognize that only out-of-state defense counsel would contend that Clemson and the State were alter egos.

where a majority of trustees was not appointed by the Governor, the university can sue and be sued in its own name, and it is a separate corporation holding certain assets separate from the state].

Put very simply, the Supreme Court has held Clemson University not to be the alter ego of the State. Kaiser Gypsum would have to produce very powerful arguments to persuade this Court to overrule the Supreme Court. Not only has it not done so, but the analysis above shows that there are no such arguments. Accordingly, this Court should follow the Supreme Court and hold that Clemson University is a citizen of South Carolina fully qualified to bring a suit within the diversity jurisdiction of this Court.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>10</sup>Kaiser Gypsum claims support from several opinion letters of the South Carolina Attorney General but, as with its principal argument, it has also misread those opinion letters by assuming that all agencies that have some state connection or state support are automatically alter egos of the State, and by ignoring the critical differences between states and their municipalities or political subdivisions. Properly read, the letters actually support Clemson's position. See e.g., S.C. Att'y Gen. Op. (Dec. 8, 1987) [S.C. Ports Authority is a state agency but not alter ego.]

Two of the four letters cited by Kaiser Gypsum refer to Clemson. In one, August 2, 1967, Clemson University is specifically declared by the Attorney General to be a "municipality," and thus eligible for funding under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C. § 466e. In the other, September 8, 1980, Clemson University is listed along with other state-supported institutions as being "state agencies or political subdivisions [emphasis added]" eligible for funding of highway safety programs under 23 U.S.C. § 402. Other institutions receiving state "support" include the regional technical centers, which are quite likely not alter egos of the state either. See, Goss v. San Jacinto Junior College, 588 F.2d 96 (5th Cir. 1979).

2. Clemson University is a Separate Municipal Corporation

By § 59-119-310, a municipal corporation was created ". . . known as Clemson University, . . ." The general rule for determining citizenship of a political subdivision has been summarized as follows:

A political subdivision of the state, unless it is simply the arm or alter ego of the state, is considered a citizen of such state for federal diversity jurisdiction purposes. Usually where a subdivision of a state has the status of a body corporate and politic, and given corporate powers, it is regarded as having an independent status from the state so as to permit diversity jurisdiction to be invoked in an action involving such subdivision.

32A Am.Jur.2d Federal Practice and Procedure § 1422, (emphasis added).

There is no question that municipal corporations, counties, and other political subdivisions of a state are considered citizens of their respective states and may create diversity jurisdiction in the federal courts. See, 13B Wright, Miller & Cooper, Federal Practice and Procedure § 3602 n.14; § 3623 n.22-25 (citing cases); Loeb v. Trustees of Columbia Township, 179 U.S. 472, 21 S.Ct. 174, 179-80 (1900); Cowles v. Mercer County, supra; Illinois v. City of Milwaukee, 92 S.Ct. at 1390; District of Columbia v. L. B. Smith, Inc., 474 F.Supp. 894 (D.D.C. 1979).

Accordingly, since Clemson University is a municipal corporation with a separate and distinct identity from the state, it is a citizen of the State of South

Carolina for diversity purposes.<sup>11</sup> For this additional reason, diversity jurisdiction is proper.

B. IF ONE CLASS REPRESENTATIVE IS A CITIZEN, THE PRESENCE OF AN ALTER EGO DOES NOT DESTROY DIVERSITY

Since Clemson is a citizen for diversity purposes, it is unnecessary to prolong the debate with an extensive analysis of the College of Charleston's circumstances. Nevertheless, plaintiffs point out that it: (1) gets a majority of its operating revenue from non-state appropriations, Affidavit of J. Floyd Tyler Exhibit 4; and (2) is insured by The Reserve Fund which would pay any judgments, not the state. The Fourth Circuit has noted this second factor is the most significant of all. Ram Ditta, 822 F.2d at 457.

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<sup>11</sup>The cases Kaiser Gypsum cites are easily distinguishable once analysis is substituted for labels. Hughes-Bechtol, Inc. v. West Va. Bd. of Regents, 737 F.2d 540 (6th Cir.), cert denied 469 U.S. 1018 (1984), involved a statewide university board which the court found was "merely a conduit through which budget requests from the state universities, and corresponding appropriations from the West Virginia legislature flow." The court found that all funds expended by the Board were state funds from the state treasury. 737 F.2d at 542. Likewise, Ronwin v. Shapiro, 657 F.2d 1071 (9th Cir. 1981), a libel action against the University of Arizona Board of Regents, noted that the Board could not satisfy a judgment "in any way other than by turning to the state of Arizona." 657 F.2d at 1073. Jacobs v. College of William and Mary, 495 F.Supp. 183, 189 (E.D.Va. 1980), aff'd. mem. 661 F.2d 922 (4th Cir. 1981), cert. denied 454 U.S. 1033 (1981), acknowledged the fact-specific nature of the inquiry. The court found that William and Mary had been public since its inception, all its property was owned the State of Virginia, all judgments would be satisfied out of state funds, all its governing board was appointed by the state and funding was supplied by the state. 455 F.Supp. at 189-190. The remaining cases Kaiser Gypsum cites similarly turn on different facts.



In any event, the presence of The College of Charleston, even if an "alter ego" of South Carolina, does not destroy diversity. Although an alter ego cannot create diversity because of its lack of citizenship, it cannot destroy diversity either (when it is co-plaintiff with a diverse plaintiff) because it is not a citizen of any of the states in which defendants are incorporated or headquartered. See, Laird v. Chrysler, 92 F.R.D. 473, 475 (D.Mass. 1981). Thus, there are no parties from the same state on both sides of the case - a condition needed to destroy diversity.

In Owen Equipment and Erection Co. v. Kroger, 437 U.S. 365, 98 S.Ct. 2396 (1978), cited by Kaiser Gypsum (at 2), the Court discussed the theory of diversity jurisdiction. It noted that "diversity jurisdiction is not to be available when any plaintiff is a citizen of the same state as any defendant". 98 S.Ct. at 2403. (emphasis in original) The Court recognized that diversity jurisdiction is offended when citizens of the same state appear on both sides of a case. Here, even if The College of Charleston is an alter ego of South Carolina (and, consequently, a citizen of no state), the offensive result of citizens of the same state on both sides of the case does not occur. Accordingly, at worst, under the circumstances here, the College of Charleston exerts no influence on diversity.

C. ANY DEFECT IN A NAMED PLAINTIFF CAN BE CURED BY AMENDMENT

Assuming arguendo that the College of Charleston is an alter ego of the state and that an alter ego cannot remain as a named class representative, any such jurisdictional problem can be cured by dropping it as a named plaintiff. Under Fed.R.Civ.P. 21, parties may be dropped or added by order of the court on motions on sua sponte. A non-diverse party whose presence is not indispensable may be dismissed to achieve complete diversity. See, 7 Wright, Miller & Kane, Federal Practice and Procedure, § 1685 (1986). South Carolina Electric and Gas v. Ranger Construction Company, 539 F.Supp. 578, 580 (D.S.C. 1982) [defendant dropped] citing Caperton v. Beatrice Pocahontas Coal Co., 585 F.2d 683, 691-92 (4th Cir. 1978); Allstate Insurance Company v. Lumbermen's Mutual Casualty Company, 204 F.Supp. 83 (D.Conn. 1962). [Plaintiff allowed to withdraw to preserve diversity.]

D. EVEN IF BOTH PLAINTIFFS WERE NOT "CITIZENS", DISMISSAL WOULD NOT BE THE SOLUTION

Even in the unlikely event the Court were to hold that both named plaintiffs are alter egos of the state, it would make no sense to dismiss this action and start all over with a new plaintiff. Rather, equity and judicial economy would best be served by allowing a new diverse plaintiff to intervene in the already existing action. That new plaintiff would pursue the same causes of action against the same defendants. The dropped

plaintiffs would simply become members of the class. It would serve no purpose to force a new plaintiff to file a separate lawsuit when the defendants are already on notice of the claims and the identity of the class. See International Woodworkers v. Chesapeake Bay Plywood Corp., 659 F.2d 1259 (4th Cir. 1981) [correct procedure for defect in class representative is to allow proper representative to come forward]; Dameron v. Sinai Hospital, 595 F.Supp. 1404 (D.Md. 1984), aff'd. in part 815 F.2d 975 (4th Cir. 1987) [same]. This solution is readily available here since a private college, Central Wesleyan, already has an independent class action pending and Kaiser Gypsum has itself argued that Central Wesleyan should have intervened in this case. See Opposition of Kaiser Gypsum Co. to Plaintiffs' Motion to Consolidate (July 31, 1987). Intervention by a new representative was the precise procedure used by Judge Hawkins in Runion v. U.S. Shelter, 98 F.R.D. 313 (D.S.C. 1983) to cure a defect in the named representative. He allowed a representative in one class action to replace an inadequate representative in a companion class action.

Moreover, with the leading college organizations in the country supporting the suit, an alternate representative could certainly be found if necessary. Thus, even assuming both class representatives were alter egos, Central Wesleyan or some other college could be allowed to intervene to continue the Clemson suit without interruption. See Atkins v. State Board of Education, 418 F.2d 874, 876 (4th Cir. 1969). Whittenberg v.

School District of Greenville, 607 F.Supp. 289, 303 (D.S.C. 1985); See also Fuller v. Volk, 351 F.2d 323 (3rd Cir. 1965); Hackner v. Guaranty Trust Co., 117 F.2d 95 (2nd Cir. 1941), cert. denied 313 U.S. 559 (1941). The addition of a new representative who had previously been a class member would relate back to the time of the original filing. Haas v. Pittsburgh National Bank, 526 F.2d 1083 (3rd Cir. 1975).

Consequently, Kaiser Gypsum's hope that the college class action will go away if it is able to disrupt the present representatives is simply unrealistic.

E. THERE IS AN INDEPENDENT FEDERAL JURISDICTIONAL BASIS BECAUSE CERTAIN DEFENDANTS ARE "FOREIGN SOVEREIGNS" AND OTHER DEFENDANTS CAN BE INCLUDED AS PENDENT PARTIES

Kaiser Gypsum's motion attacks only one of the two jurisdictional bases of this suit - diversity. Because certain Canadian miners contend they are "foreign sovereigns" amenable to suit only in Federal District Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1330, 1603(a), an independent federal jurisdictional basis for this suit exists. Last month defendants Asbestos Corporation, Ltd., Bell Asbestos Mines, Ltd., Atlas Asbestos Co., Ltd., and Atlas-Turner, Inc. filed a consolidated motion to remove the State of South Carolina asbestos suit from Richland County to federal court, arguing that it was the only proper forum in which the action could proceed against them. (See Exhibit 2). It is at least incongruous for Kaiser Gypsum to argue that suit by South Carolina's "alter ego" should not be in federal court, when its

co-defendants have removed the suit by South Carolina itself to the federal court, contending it is the only proper forum.

The Foreign Service Immunity Act (F.S.I.A.), provides exclusive federal jurisdiction for actions against foreign states or corporations owned by foreign states. Goar v. CPV, 688 F.2d 417, 421 (5th Cir. 1982) ["Every appellate court that has considered whether 1330(a) is the sole source of federal jurisdiction in suits against corporations owned by foreign states has concluded that it is"]; Arango v. Guzman Travel Advisors Corp., 761 F.2d 1527 (11th Cir.) cert. denied 474 U.S. 995, 106 S.Ct. 408 (1985) [Congress properly classified commercial entities owned by foreign governments in the same way as the governments themselves]; Williams v. Shipping Corp. of India, 653 F.2d 875, 881 (4th Cir. 1982) cert. denied 455 U.S. 982, 1025 S.Ct. 1490 (1982).

With federal jurisdiction existing over the foreign asbestos miners, the court may assert jurisdiction over the remaining defendants as pendent parties. In Aldinger v. Howard, 427 U.S. 1, 96 S.Ct. 2413 (1976) the Supreme Court held that a federal court can join a party not otherwise subject to federal jurisdiction if permitted by Article III and not prohibited by the statute conferring subject matter jurisdiction over the primary claim. Article III extends judicial power to controversies between a state and foreign states, and 28 U.S.C. 1330 contains no prohibition against joining pendent parties.

In fact, when the grant of federal jurisdiction is exclusive (as it is under the F.S.I.A.), Aldinger teaches courts should be hesitant in denying pendent party jurisdiction. 96 S.Ct. at 2422. See also, 13B Wright, Miller & Cooper Federal Civil Procedure § 3567.2, n.35. Otherwise, the strong judicial interest in resolving controversies in one forum would be destroyed. As another Supreme Court opinion stated ". . . Congress did not intend to confine the jurisdiction of federal courts so inflexibly that they are unable to protect legal rights or effectively to resolve an entire, logically entwined lawsuit." Owen Equipment Co., 98 S.Ct. at 2404. That interest is particularly strong here since the Canadian miners sold the majority of asbestos used by Kaiser Gypsum and the other manufacturing defendants in their products. Indeed, the manufacturers may eventually cross claim against the miners. Litigation is likely because of these sales.

A plaintiff, even an alter ego of the state, may sue a foreign state under 28 U.S.C. § 1330, and the court may exert pendent party jurisdiction over non-diverse defendants. See, Verlinden BV v. Central Bank of Nigeria, 461 U.S. 480, 103 S.Ct. 1962, 1969 (1983). ["The Act [F.S.I.A.] contains no indication of any limitation based upon the citizenship of the plaintiff".] Thus, assuming arguendo that Clemson and The College of Charleston are both alter egos of the state, this Court's jurisdiction would nevertheless be proper.

F. KAISER GYPSUM'S MOTION TO DISMISS IS PRIMARILY A CHURNING EXERCISE SINCE THERE IS NO JURISDICTIONAL QUESTION ABOUT CENTRAL WESLEYAN COLLEGE, AND CLEMSON AND THE COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON COULD CLEARLY BE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL WESLEYAN CLASS.

To understand the ultimate uselessness of Kaiser Gypsum's motion, assume for a moment that it is all right and plaintiffs are all wrong. Thus, assuming that: (1) Clemson and The College of Charleston are both alter egos of the state; (2) no intervention or amendment of parties in Clemson were permissible; (3) there is no foreign sovereign jurisdiction, and (4) there can be no pendent jurisdiction over other defendants; Kaiser Gypsum's motion to dismiss is nevertheless pointless. There already exists a related class action filed by Central Wesleyan College in which Clemson and The College of Charleston can be class members. Central Wesleyan College v. W.R. Grace & Co., et al., C/A 2:87-1860-2 (D.S.C. filed July 17, 1987).

No defendant has made a jurisdictional challenge to Central Wesleyan's maintenance of the class action. Central Wesleyan is a private, religiously affiliated school incorporated in South Carolina. (See Exhibit 3). Clemson and The College of Charleston can be members of the Central Wesleyan class, since all three schools are colleges or universities with an asbestos abatement problem and covered by the class definition. See Complaint ¶ 8. Thus, at the end of a long string of battle

victories, even if they occurred, Kaiser Gypsum would lose the war. Its motion is, indeed, a churning exercise.

#### IV

#### CONCLUSION

Kaiser Gypsum's motion to dismiss should be denied for any or all of the following reasons.

1. Clemson, a named plaintiff, is not an alter ego of the state.

2. Assuming arguendo that The College of Charleston is an alter ego, the action can continue based on the citizenship of Clemson.

3. Assuming arguendo that both named plaintiffs are alter egos, rather than dismiss the action, any defect in the parties plaintiff can be cured by intervention of a diverse plaintiff such as Central Wesleyan.

4. Assuming arguendo that both named plaintiffs are alter egos, they may still sue the Canadian miners (foreign sovereigns) in federal court and the remaining defendants may be included as pendent parties to bring the entire controversy before one forum.

Finally, even assuming the remote result that both named plaintiffs are alter egos and no federal jurisdictional basis exists, plaintiffs are members of the Central Wesleyan class and the Central Wesleyan class action may proceed with the



same claims as the Clemson and College of Charleston class action.

Accordingly, class plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court deny Kaiser Gypsum's motion to dismiss.

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& POOLE

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BY: 

December 16, 1987

Charleston, South Carolina.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that counsel for defendants listed below have been served with a substituted copy of class plaintiffs' response to Kaiser Gypsum's motion to dismiss plaintiffs' class action by placing same for delivery through United States mail, postage prepaid this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1987

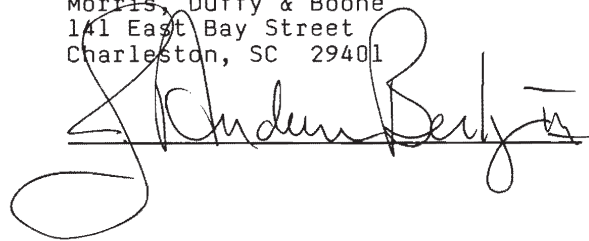
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A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to P. Michael Duffy, is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and somewhat illegible due to its style.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

|                                 |   |                        |
|---------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| CLEMSON UNIVERSITY and          | ) |                        |
| THE COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON       | ) |                        |
| on behalf of themselves and all | ) | C. A. No. 2: 86-2055-2 |
| others similarly situated,      | ) |                        |
|                                 | ) |                        |
| Plaintiffs,                     | ) |                        |
|                                 | ) |                        |
| vs.                             | ) | AFFIDAVIT              |
|                                 | ) |                        |
| W. R. GRACE & CO., et al.,      | ) |                        |
|                                 | ) |                        |
| Defendants.                     | ) |                        |

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Jack N. Wilson, being first duly sworn upon oath, states as follows:

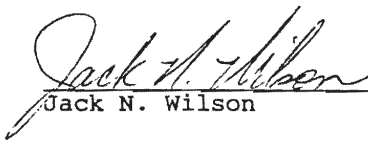
1. My name is Jack N. Wilson and I am the Associate Vice President for Facilities, Planning and Management at Clemson University.

2. As a part of my job duties and responsibilities, I am knowledgeable about the University's monetary funding and appropriations.

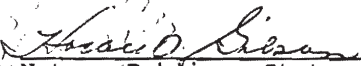
3. That Exhibit 1A, attached hereto, accurately reflects Clemson University's statement of revenues for the years 1985, 1986, and 1987; that as can be seen from the statement, the State of South Carolina has contributed 47%, 48%, and 46% respectively of the total appropriations for the aforementioned years.

4. That Exhibit 1B, attached hereto, accurately reflects the State of South Carolina's anticipated appropriations for the year 1987-88; that such appropriations are anticipated to amount to 42% of Clemson's revenues for that time period.

That within information provided is based upon my personal knowledge and belief.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack N. Wilson

The foregoing was sworn to and acknowledged before me this  
10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1987 by Jack N. Wilson.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public - State of South Carolina  
Sept 7, 1989 Expires

## CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

## Statement of Current Revenues

|   | <u>1987</u>   | <u>1986</u>   | <u>1985</u> |
|---|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Revenues:                                     |               |               |             |
| Tuition and fees                              | \$ 29,979,180 | \$ 27,269,681 | \$ 25,660   |
| Federal appropriations                        | 10,355,051    | 10,071,330    | 10,937      |
| State and local appropriations                | 93,674,716    | 92,576,696    | 84,634      |
| Federal grants and contracts                  | 10,001,054    | 8,521,943     | 8,795       |
| State grants and contracts                    | 1,217,811     | 1,475,132     |             |
| Local grants and contracts                    | 41,346        | 15,104        |             |
| Other grants and contracts                    |               |               | 9,581       |
| Private gifts, grants and contracts           | 11,265,545    | 10,513,149    |             |
| Endowment income                              | 327,242       | 320,402       |             |
| Sales and services of educational departments | 1,484,720     | 1,525,410     | 1,462       |
| Sales and services of auxiliary enterprises   | 36,244,325    | 34,923,873    | 31,826      |
| Other sources                                 | 8,834,409     | 6,805,756     | 5,959       |
| Total current revenues                        | \$203,425,399 | \$194,018,476 | \$ 178,854  |

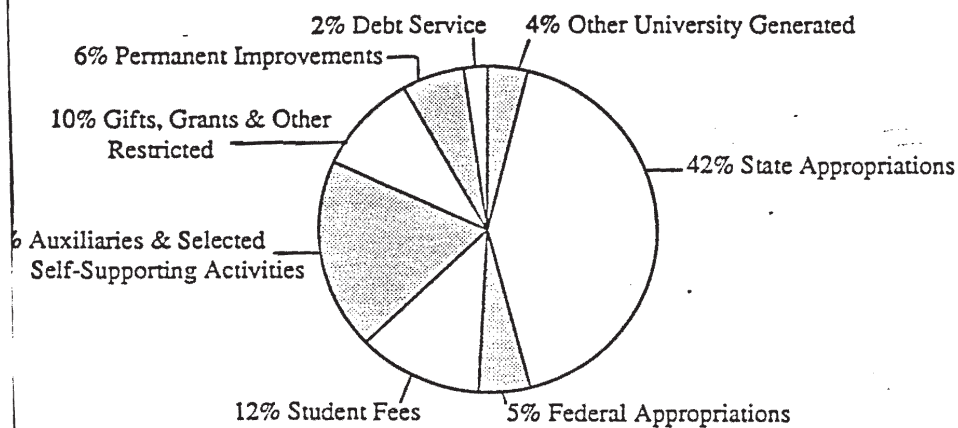
\* State and local appropriations %

1987 46%  
 1986 48%  
 1985 47%

EXHIBIT 1A

# Clemson University

## 1987-88 Total Revenue



Estimated Revenue — \$227 million